

**CHANNEL ISLANDS NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY
SANCTUARY ADVISORY COUNCIL**

ADOPTED MEETING MINUTES

**Thursday July 22, 1999
8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.**

**Ventura Yacht Club
Ventura, CA**

In Attendance:

GOVERNMENT SEATS

NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE

Alternate Mark Helvey

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Member James Shevock

Alternate Gary Davis

US COAST GUARD

Member Yuri Graves

Alternate Mike Hamerski, MST 1

MINERALS MANAGEMENT SERVICE

Member Drew Mayerson

Alternate Fred Piltz Ph.D.

US NAVY

Member Ron Dow

Alternate Gail Pringle ??

DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

Member Patty Wolf

Alternate Lt. Jorge Gross

CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION

Member Gary Timm

COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA

Member Dianne Meester, Vice-Chair

Alternate Jackie Campbell

COUNTY OF VENTURA

Member Lyn Krieger

Alternate Jack Peveler

COMMUNITY SEATS

RECREATION

Member Jim Brye

BUSINESS

Member Rudy Scott

Education

Alternate Larry Manson

RESEARCH

Alternate Matthew Cahn

CONSERVATION

Member Linda Krop

AT-LARGE

Member Jean-Michel Cousteau

Alternate Barry Schuyler

AT-LARGE

Member Craig Fusaro, Ph.D., Chair

AT-LARGE

Member Marla Daily

NON-VOTING SEATS

**CHANNEL ISLANDS NATIONAL
MARINE SANCTUARY**

LCDR Edward R. Cassano, Manager

**MONTEREY BAY NATIONAL MARINE
SANCTUARY**

William Douros, Superintendent

**GULF OF THE FARALLONES/CORDELL
BANKS NATIONAL MARINE**

SANCTUARIES
Ed Ueber, Manager

Not attending:

**NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES
SERVICE**

Member Jim Slawson

CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION

Alternate Jack Ainsworth

CALIFORNIA RESOURCES AGENCY

Member Brian Baird

Alternate Melissa Miller-Henson

TOURISM

Member Holly Lohuis, Secretary

Alternate Michael Finucan

Business

Alternate Dr. Dan Secord

RECREATION

Alternate Tony Gibbs

FISHING

Member Bruce Steele

Alternate Chris Williams

EDUCATION

Member Dave Long

Research

Member Leal Mertes, Ph.D.

CONSERVATION

Alternate Peter Howorth

AT-LARGE

Alternate Mick Kronman

AT-LARGE

Alternate Jeff Auerbach

I. Administrative Items

Approval of meeting minutes- February 25, 1999 and May 20, 1999

The February and May minutes were approved by acclaim with some minor modifications required. All suggested changes are to be included and then the minutes will then be available to the public. The minutes will be posted on the Sanctuary's website as well as made available in hard copy upon request.

New SAC member introduction: Yuri Graves, USCG

LT Yuri Graves is the Supervisor of the Coast Guard's Marine Safety Detachment office in Santa Barbara. Mr. Graves will hold the SAC member seat for the Coast Guard, replacing Mr. Rick Sorrell.

Changes to NMFS Representation on SAC

Mark Helvey announced changes made by NMFS concerning SAC membership. Mr. Helvey will now take the member seat and Ms. Korie Johnson will become with NMFS alternate on the Council. Jim Slawson will no longer serve as the NMFS member.

Introduction of Stephanie Thornton

Stephanie Thornton was introduced by the Chair. Ms. Thornton is Chief of the NOAA's Marine Sanctuaries Division.

Member Biographies

The biographies document has been compiled with only eight remaining member biographies not yet received. This document will be posted on the web and mailed to the Council as it stands. However, Sanctuary staff will gladly accommodate additions or corrections if and when they are received.

Letterhead

By acclaim the letterhead was approved, pending a few minor modifications. The changes requested included:

Change "Channel Islands National Park" to "National Park Service"
Change the Coast Guard names to reflect recent changes [and NMFS names too]
Add a photo of *Macrocystis*
Add missing names: Marla Daily and

Jim Brye and the high school students that designed the letterhead were acknowledged and thanked. Passes for a free trip to Anacapa Island are being arranged as a thank you gift to the students, courtesy of Holly Lohuis and Island Packers. The Sanctuary will also be giving caps to the students.

Alolkoy feature on the SAC

The upcoming September/October issue of the Alolkoy will highlight the SAC with a two-page article written by the CINMS staff. The Sanctuary would like to start doing more to promote the Council, and the Alolkoy is one tool for this.

Status of Congressman Hefley's federal trawling bill

This issue was previously raised by Public-At-Large SAC alternate Mick Kronman as an item for which a briefing was desired. Ed Cassano reported that concerns had been expressed about the bill's inclusion of the Channel Islands NMS as an area in which trawling would be prohibited. As a result of these concerns, discussions with Congressman Hefley's office resulted in the removal of the Channel Islands NMS from the bill. Recognition of the work of the SAC and the Sanctuary's marine reserves process were noted as contributing to the removal of CINMS from the bill. The bill has not yet gone to committee; it is a discussion draft for a proposed bill.

II. Committee Reports

Marine Reserve Working Group

This will be covered separately later in the day, as noted on the meeting agenda.

Education Working Group/MERA

There was no update given for this group. Dave Long, the Council representative to this working group, was not at the meeting.

Research Activities Panel (RAP)

Matt Cahn reported that not much has happened thus far. The group has been putting their energies into the Marine Reserves Science Panel. Would like to use the Science Panel and other interested individuals as the framework for beginning the RAP.

Conservation Working Group

No report given. Linda Krop, the Council member to chair this group, had not yet arrived to the meeting.

Fishing Working Group

No report given. Bruce Steele, the Council member to chair this group, was absent.

Ed Cassano identified the staff support for these groups:

- Marine Reserves Working Group: Sean Hastings
- Education Working Group/MERA: Julie Goodson
- Research Working Group/RAP: Sarah Fangman
- Conservation Working Group: Anne Walton
- Fishing Working Group: Sean Hastings

III. Manager's Report (part 1)

The Manager's report was presented by Ed Cassano.

New Staff

A Program Support Assistant will start at the CINMS office in early August.

Permits issued

No new permits were issued over the last two months. The Sanctuary will provide the SAC with a receive a permit summary for Fiscal Year 1999. Permits are granted for activities that would otherwise be a violation of Sanctuary regulations. A common example is a permit for Sanctuary overflight (below 1000 feet).

Recent boating incidents

Additional information was added by Mike Hamerski of the USCG.

Margaret O- This squid trawling vessel sank off Santa Rosa, was raised and then sank again off Gull Island (near Santa Cruz). A new salvage company has been hired, which both the CINMS and the USCG are carefully monitoring. The Sanctuary has received good cooperation from the Coast Guard.

Ballena operations at Monterey Bay NMS

The Ballena was loaned to the Monterey Bay NMS for to assist with research for two weeks. Bill Douros, Superintendant of MBNMS, provided a summary report:

Bill Douros thanked the CINMS for lending the *R/V Ballena* out for two weeks to do research on krill, marine mammals, marine birds, and the Prickly Shark. Ed noted that the Ballena is a very sophisticated research vessel.

Navy SCARF site demobilization

Phase one (in June) of SCARF saw the removal of a substantial amount of material from the sea floor. Phase two, which is on-going until June 23rd will involve the removal of cables out to about 100 feet. The Sanctuary will continue discussions with the Navy on removal of the remaining material.

Global Photon cable proposal

Ed reported the a group called Global Photon is proposing the laying of a fiber optic undersea telecommunications cable from San Francisco to San Diego. The proposal calls for the cable to pass through a very small portion of the CINMS near Anacapa Island. CINMS received a briefing by Global Photon. The proposal would affect MBNMS more significantly, and so MBNMS is taking the lead on this issue for the California sanctuaries.

Bill Douros described various proposed cable routes through MBNMS. They are trying to work out a joint NEPA/CEQA process with Global Photon, but as of right now they are not sure weather or not MBNMS would approve or deny a permit for Global Photon. Problematic factors include the tendency for cable companies to want a mile or so between different cables, and the potential impacts on commercial fishers.

Craig Fusaro explained that his office (Joint Oil/Fisheries Office) has been working with a number of these companies. The competition is strong, the revenue stakes are high, and

more of these types of proposals should likely be expected for the next 3-4 years. Craig explained the “festoon system” of the Global Photon proposed system from San Francisco to San Diego.

Ed responded that the Sanctuary would keep the

Additional boating incidents

Mark Hamerski, USCG SAC alternate, reported briefly on two additional boating incidents during the last week of May: Seven days after the *Margaret O* went down, *Casablanca*, a 45-foot cabin cruiser, ran aground on the south side of Santa Cruz Island, with a discharge of 80 gallons of diesel fuel. On 30 May, the *Barry D*, a 38-foot fishing vessel, grounded on San Miguel Island with 300 gallons of diesel fuel on board. Ed noted that the Coast Guard’s operation to remove the fuel from the *Barry D* was very successful.

Blue Whales

Ed described the surface lunge feeding behavior of Blue Whales that Sanctuary staff watched for hours in June. In two days, eight different cetacean special were seen.

Entangled Gray Whale

On June 23 in the Santa Barbara Channel, the CINMS staff encountered a dead gray Whale which was entangled in a large net. The origin of the net was unknown. Two days earlier, fishermen watched two Great White sharks feeding on the dead whale.

IV. Public Comment

Ted Morton- Mr. Morton, on behalf of the American Oceans Campaign (AOC), thanked the CINMS staff for holding a public Water Quality Forum in Santa Barbara on July 21, 1999 adding that it was a very productive meeting. He also stated that the AOC is lobbying for a National Beach Bill (HR 999) that would set minimum standards for testing beach waters and public notification when contamination levels exceed water quality standards. If the Bill passes, it would authorize EPA to make up to \$30 million in state grants to help localities do beach water testing. AOC is putting together a web site on stormwater materials that have been created for California, with an extensive bibliography. The web site address for the site is not yet known, but links from AOC’s site (www.aoc.org) should provide access.

Larry Manson, SAC education seat alternate, thanked AOC for their work on this, and noted that he has been involved with this for a number of years through his work with the Surfrider Foundation. Passage of HR 999 out of House subcommittees, committee, and the House floor has been a great accomplishment.

V. Manager’s Report (part 2)

Research

Channel Islands National Park kelp forest monitoring- This year marks the 18th year this program has been running. The data set generated from the research is an important asset to the Sanctuary. Sanctuary staff have been participating in the monitoring.

PISCO (Partnership for Interdisciplinary Studies of Coastal Oceans)

PISCO is a new partnership between UCSB, UC Santa Cruz, Stanford and Oregon State University recently launched with an \$18 million grant from the Packard Foundation. The work will focus closely on nearshore processes to develop a long term monitoring and research program. CINMS is forming a strong partnership with UCSB on PISCO. An MOU will be established with UCSB. The Ballena will dedicate yearly research vessel time to the program. An information briefing on PISCO may be suggested (by Ed) for a future SAC meeting.

Ecological reserve cruises

The NMFS, under a Sea Grant program, and partnering with USGS, the National Park Service and CINMS, has been conducting research cruises for the last two years focusing on a study of marine reserve efficacy and larval production. The last cruise of the study was completed in July.

Education

UCSB cruises - The Sanctuary hosted high achieving High school students on board the Ballena, demonstrating research activities.

MERA - meeting was held in early July.

Cultural resources

In June two wrecks off Anacapa were surveyed, the Winfield Scott and the Del Rio. There was also a field reconnaissance mission off Santa Rosa island (Betchers Bay) for a canon, but it turned out the item was probably ordinance.

GIS

The Sanctuary was recently the recipient of a grant to establish a public participation module for the CINMS GIS program. The idea is to make the GIS an effective decision making tool for issues like ecological reserves.

There was a leadership team meeting of Sanctuary managers from around the country. Sanctuary managers were able to provide briefings to the Secretary of Commerce. Ed

Cassano talked about the collaborative processes that CINMS is engaged in, specifically the marine reserves process and the management plan review process.

Reauthorization of NMSA

Stephanie Thornton, Chief of the NOAA's Marine Sanctuaries Division, began by acknowledging the hard work of the SAC, and the importance of that work for the NMSP. She noted that Ed Cassano did a great job presenting to the Secretary of Commerce, placing significant emphasis on the importance of the Sanctuary Advisory Council.

Specific to the reauthorization, Ms. Thornton stated that the process has gone along really successfully thus far. With elevated levels of support, the agency would like to take advantage of the opportunity to clarify the role of the NMSP through reauthorization of the Act. NOAA has cleared the Administration's bill through OMB. The process brought unified support throughout the NOAA chain for the Administration's bill. Congressional members have put out bills that are very similar, which is a good show of support.

SAC members, writing to key appropriators and other Congressional members, can help make an importance difference. The SAC as a whole can also help by sending a collective statement to Dr. Baker (Undersecretary for NOAA).

NMSP appropriations update

The President's Lands Legacy Initiative proposes \$29 million for the NMSP, including \$3 million for capital facilities.

The Senate has acted before the House, proposing \$18.9 million, plus the \$3 million for capital facilities. The House could possibly propose less than this. It is important to continuously support reauthorization and appropriation.

Ms. Thornton suggested that CINMS provide the SAC with copies of all the reauthorization bills. She also suggested that Ms. Helen Golde of NMSP headquarters might be able to come to CINMS to provide a briefing on reauthorization and appropriation. Ed Cassano commented that CINMS will provide materials and information about reauthorization and appropriation, including germane contacts.

VI. Presentation: The Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary's Water Quality Protection Program - Dr. Holly Price

Bill Douros began with an introduction to MBNMS' Water Quality Protection Program (WQPP) and introduced Holly Price. Holly began a slide show presentation.

Various agencies and jurisdictions agreed to work together on water quality issues facing the Sanctuary. An MOU was forged.

Holly provided an overview of Sanctuary resources, and water quality sources: urban runoff, marinas and boating, agricultural, wetland and riparian degradation.

About 50 rivers, estuaries and streams drain into the Sanctuary. There are a mix of watershed types, from relatively pristine, to urban, to agricultural. There are four harbors along the Sanctuary.

Goals of the program are to are to:

- enhance and protect physical and biological conditions in the Sanctuary
- establish partnerships for ecosystem-based watershed and marine protection
- improve coordination and integration of existing water quality programs

Eight agencies signed on to the MOA.

An early recommendation called for working toward a long term regional monitoring program that would:

- conduct a comprehensive assessment of WQ status and trends
- coordinate and build on existing programs
- pool the data from disparate sources
- make sure data are being seen and used by decision makers

The Sanctuary Citizen Watershed Monitoring Network was created to pool data from various citizen monitoring programs.

An Urban Runoff Plan was developed and is now being implemented via a number of strategies.

A Marinas and Boating Plan was developed and is now in the implementation phase.

Agricultural water quality issues are very complex. A plan was developed over 3 years, and is just being finished up. Keys to the plan are:

- Establishing of industry networks
- Improve management practices
- Land owner self monitoring
- Interagency regulatory coordination (develop a watershed-scale permit system)
- technical outreach
- economic incentives
- improve collaborative relations with agriculture

Overall recommendations/key points:

- identify a water body as a catalyst
- identify and coordinate existing programs
- break into manageable units
- conduct broad outreach to the stakeholders and go to their table
- creatively fund implementation
- watershed coordination is not free or temporary

VII. Sustainable Seas Expedition - Ed Cassano

Ed Cassano presented a pictorial slide show that reviewed CINMS's experience with the Sustainable Seas Expedition. [For more information on SSE, visit the Sanctuary's web site at www.cinms.nos.noaa.gov/suseas.html]

VIII. Presentation: The Gaviota Coast Conservancy - Mike Lunsford, Management Plan Update

IX. Management plan update

A. Scoping Meetings

The wrap-up meeting for the scoping process will be held on August 18, 1999 with discussion of the most relevant issues as a focus. There will also be workshops on these issues throughout fall of this year.

The Sanctuary has received a Packard Foundation grant, administered through the Center for Marine Conservation, for a development of a public participation GIS. This tool will incorporate data provided by the public, both socio/economic and anecdotal, with that of the Sanctuary's data. The full integration of these data sets holds the potential to serve as a model for other Sanctuaries and be more user friendly.

This information is hoped to be incorporated by October/November, and will be available in total as part of the GIS cooperative with the CIGIS

B. Marine Reserve process Update

1. Fish and Game Commission briefing.

On June 16-17, there was a meeting of the California Fish and Game Commission, during which Patty Wolf, Ed Cassano, and Sean Hastings provided a status report on the Marine Reserve Working Group. Highlighted were the processes the SAC used to formulate the MRWG and the Science Panel. Additionally, there will be two more F&G Commission meetings in August.

2. Marine Reserves Science Panel.

Matt Cahn reported that the science panel is still in its formative stages with 16 panelists representing 10 institutions ready to start. There has been one "pre"-science panel

meeting. A handout was provided that presented five draft objectives for the Science Panel:

- to identify and review the state of the literature on marine reserves.
- to identify existing datasets
- to work with the Working Group in defining clear and justifiable criteria for assessing the utility of reserves
- to apply these datasets to defined criteria (and to identify areas where insufficient data exist)
- to score different reserve scenarios such that the working group can make an informed policy recommendation

Important developments:

- The Science Panel is now a complete group
- NCEAS will not be publishing findings until next year, which means access to their research is limited right now.
- A Post-Doc for the Science Panel is being sought ASAP.

3. Marine Reserves Socio-Economic Panel

There was little discussion on this group, as it has not yet formed.

4. Marine Reserves Working Group.

On August 9, the first MRWG meeting was held with 13 of 15 members present. The Meeting, which was chaired by Patty Wolf and co-chaired by Ed Cassano, focused primarily on the procedural issues for the group. This included explaining the process that was used to create the group.

A decision was made to delay the next MRWG meeting from August to September, to allow time to get clearer on purpose, goals, objectives, etc.

Discussion followed on the role of the public in the MRWG and Science Panel forums, at what level should the public be involved? Ideas expressed by various SAC members included:

- The public should be able to comment only during the SAC meetings and be observers in the Sub-committee meetings.
- The Science Panel should focus only on science, whereas the MRWG should be open to the public.
- The MRWG should be an open forum so that local knowledge may be incorporated into the process.
- Public participation should be maximized.

The issue of public involvement with MRWG and Science Panel processes was tabled, to be resolved at a later date.

Remaining seats on the MRWG:

The Council first discussed the “Sport Diving” seat. Candidates included Terry Maas, Steve Barsky, Locky Brown, Jim Hamilton and Kathy Olsen. Each candidate was discussed. SAC Chair Craig Fusaro called for a vote.

Locky Brown received 8 votes, Kathy Olsen received 6 votes. 2 members abstained.

Locky Brown was appointed to the Marine Reserve Working Group (pending on his acceptance)

The “Marina/Business” seat was considered next. The two candidates were Bob Fletcher and David Bacon. A third possible candidate, Randy Shortt, was expected to have applied, but information from him was not available.

After much discussion, **a motion was made and approved by acclaim that the MRWG Marina/Business seat is to remain open until August 15. The SAC will vote on the seat at the next meeting.**

X. Additional Public Comment from Special Guests

Ben Romo, Louis Capps Office- Mr. Romo extended a warm welcome to Ms. Thornton, Chief of the National Marine Sanctuaries Program, from Congresswoman Louis Capps. He stated that the Congresswoman had recently sent a letter to the full appropriations sub-committee in an effort to secure more funding for the NMSP. He also relayed that Congresswoman Capps was also very pleased with the SAC.

Stephanie Thornton, Chief of the NMSP commented on connecting the actions of the SAC to those of other national and international marine protected area (MPA) committees. These other groups, in which she has various leadership roles, will be looking to the SAC for lessons learned, especially concerning the process of considering marine reserves.

XI. Future Agenda Dates

The idea of a SAC retreat was raised, with the possibility of a half-day SAC meeting to be followed by a Council retreat to Santa Cruz Island. September 30-October 1 was considered. A show of hands indicated 13 members might be able to make it, while 5 or 6 could not. The Sanctuary will look into this further and be in touch with the SAC via e-mail.

Additional future meeting dates set were:

- November 18, 1999, Ventura.
- January 20, 2000, Santa Barbara (tentative).

10. Future Agenda Items

Ideas raised for future meeting topics were:

- Acoustic testing/HESS - a presentation on sources and sensitive receptors. An NRDC report recently came out on this subject.
- Cable projects in the NMS
- Briefing on the August 23, 1999 meeting regarding decommissioning of oil rigs.